

# **BACKGROUND GUIDE**

## **The Cuban Missile Crisis and Cold War Politics**

### **Introduction to Crisis Committees**

A crisis committee gives delegates the ability to make decisions and carry them out. It entails reacting to crisis updates, which are a reflection of the decisions you, the delegate, have made. Thus, crisis updates have the power to swiftly alter the story of any committee. A crisis committee, to put it simply, is one that centres on you, the delegate.

## **CRISIS TOOLS**

### **Provisional Speakers List**

A delegate may choose to raise a motion to enter a Provisional Speakers' List (PSL), wherein the Executive Board will select, through their discretion, a certain number of delegations to speak for or against the agenda (which is specifically the nature of this invasion) in an alternating sequence. Note that Day 1 will begin with a General Speakers' List to encourage maximum participation and inclusivity, while speakers' lists on the following days are left to the procedural voting outcomes of the delegates themselves. A motion to enter a Special Speakers' List (SSL) will be entertained to substitute classic moderated caucuses, when delegates wish to discuss specifically the nature of the crisis at hand, in relation to the committee's crisis updates.

In this committee, the Secondary Speakers' List (SSL) will take the place of the conventional General Speakers' List (GSL), which is normally utilized in non-crisis committees. Similar in function to the GSL, but with more flexibility. In addition to sharing their thoughts on the primary subject, delegates may utilize the SSL to discuss any particular situation developments that they believe are pertinent.

### **Moderated Caucus**

In typical committees, the Moderated Caucus is used to discuss various sub-topics related to a specific topic however, in this committee, the Moderated Caucus will be used to address specific crisis updates and general topics

### **Special Crisis Elements**

The extent of legal implications on the state of war in this committee leads to the certainty of introducing additional, yet valuable crisis elements, including but not limited to: Emergency Special Summits, trials, and presidential statements (involving any and all types of leadership positions via EB discretion). Depending on the volatility and progression of the war following committee deliberation on the agenda, delegates may be expected to write committee directives (bloc-wide or unanimous), peace treaties or settlements, international licensing agreements, trade charters, arms embargoes and any other types of documentation that in large part, resolve major existential issues in committee through their specializations, in a dynamic manner.

## Directives

Directives are objective crisis notes that provide detailed, intuitive, and thoroughly strategized operations and plans that achieve a particular goal in committee. Directives can be covert (the operation is secret, its proceedings concealed from the rest of the committee except for the EB), or overt (all proceedings are known to the committee). Joint directives are co-authored by multiple portfolios. Delegates are expected to include a brief description of the objective of their operation, followed by any secondary/ulterior motives if there are any, as well as mission requirements (details of troops and equipment used in the operation), leading onto a detailed, multistage plan of action, highlighting every single intricacy that they consider while undertaking said operation. If any of these elements are missing, the directive will be scrapped. Based on the quality, detail, and reasonability of these directives, the EB will either fully pass it (meaning the outcome in the crisis is as intended by the delegate), partially pass it (meaning the outcome in the crisis may be manipulated to effects that work against the favor of the delegate), or fail it (nothing in the operation occurs in real-time). Delegates are free to undertake large scale operations in their directives if they detail how each and every phase occurs over a larger period of time, without which, the crisis timeline will not be accelerated and a significant portion of the directive's effect will be nullified.

### There are 4 types of directives in this committee

- **Covert:** Done Secretly, without the knowledge of the rest of the committee. The details are known only to the EB
- **Overt:** Done in the open whose details can be revealed to the rest of the committee.
- **Joint:** Authored by numerous delegates.
- **Committee Wide:** Directive submitted by the entire committee.

## **Communiques**

Communiques serve the same purpose as directives, except in letter format, directed to a specific persona/portfolio that is absent in committee. If a delegate decides to employ the use of a task force, for instance, to perform a police operation within the scope of civilian affairs, and the head of said task force is in absentia, the delegate can write a communique to this particular person to achieve certain goals by the means and resources of the person the communique is directed to. The EB will serve as the receiver of such communiques and will respond to them in the personality of the addressed, which serves as an indication as to whether the communiques pass, partially pass, or fail. Once again, communiques can be either covert or overt, and can be written jointly.

## **Press Releases**

A press release is a formal declaration/statement that provides the committee with certain information from the respective portfolio, that is left to the decision of the committee to be rendered as legitimate, or fabricated. Press releases are not displays of fact. Delegates can announce anything they wish to announce in a press release, at the expense of exercising the liberty to bend truths to their advantage. However, depending on the accuracy and credibility of press releases in the historical timeline, some can be directly rendered as legitimate sources of information.

The EB will brief delegates on crisis documentation in live committee sessions, but for reference, delegates may refer to the sample crisis documentations below.

## Format of a Directive:

**Type of Directive** (Covert/Overt)

**To:** The EB

**From:** The delegate of XYZ

**Primary Objective** - (Should explain the main objective of given directive crisply) Secondary

**Secondary Objective** - (Should explain the smaller objectives of a directive)

**Personnel/Resources involved** - (Mention the respective personnel/resources whose powers are being used to achieve the objective)

**Plan of action** - (Steps to be undertaken to achieve the given objective)

**Expected outcome** - (Outcome the delegate expects out of the directive)

## Format of a Communiqué

**Communique Format** (Covert/Overt)

**From** - The delegate of XYZ

**To** - The portfolio who is not present in committee

Body of the Communiqué

Signed Delegate of XYZ

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**From** - The Delegate of XYZ

**Title of Press Release** - (One line description of the main aim of the press release)

Body of the Press release

Signed by the delegate of XYZ

# SAMPLE DIRECTIVE

## Operation 新幹線 (Bullet Train)

### Covert Directive

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Yoritomo M

**Objective:** Setting up attack and defense lines along the lines of River Uji

**Secondary Objective:** Forming a potential base for future annexations towards Kyoto.

### POA (Plan of Action)

#### Phase 1 – Laying Plans

- 25 Archers of the Minamoto Clan will ascend the adjacent valleys to the river Uji overlooking the river during midnight of 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1180 AD.
- When approaching a hill or a bank, the sunny side will be occupied, with the slope on the rear right. This will benefit the infantry and utilize the natural advantage of the ground.
- Their supplies will consist of dry vegetable matter, reeds, brushwood, straw, grease, oil, vessels, etc. for lighting fires.

- The method by which this will be done is to set the tips of arrows alight by dipping them into a brazier, and then shoot them from powerful crossbows into the enemy's lines.
- The archers will hide in the most secret recesses of the terrain concealing themselves from the enemy.
- 100 horsemen divided into 4 brigades will cross the river and spread out into the wild concealing themselves behind the south, south western, north western and north sides of the river.
- Confined places, tangled thickets, quagmires and crevasses will be avoided at all costs.
- Dummy infantry units will be placed along these lines to bait the enemy into approaching the traps.
- 100 more infantry troops will be placed in front of the river towards the north, north east, south east and the east side towards Minamoto territory.
- They will be divided into 4 flanks.
- They will be concealed behind forested areas where traversing is difficult for the enemy.
- A group of rafts will be placed along the river, to which the archers will fire upon causing intense heat and smoke blurring the vision beyond the rafts.
- A naval fleet of boats will be present behind the burning rafts concealing its Presence.

## **Phase 2: Terrain**

- By arriving at the river lines in utmost stealth and secrecy, the accessible grounds covering the raised and sunny spots will be occupied with immediate effect.



- While keeping a close watch over the temporizing ground, infantry units will wait, enticing the enemy. When his army comes out, an attack can be delivered.
- Narrow Passes along the river lines will be occupied by the 4 brigades and will be strongly garrisoned
- Entangling grounds will be overlooked by the archers.
- Initially these grounds shall be occupied by the infantry of the clan.
- When receiving the signal of the enemy approaching, the infantry will retreat towards the already garrisoned narrow passes.
- The enemy upon approaching the entangling ground will be fired upon by the archers.

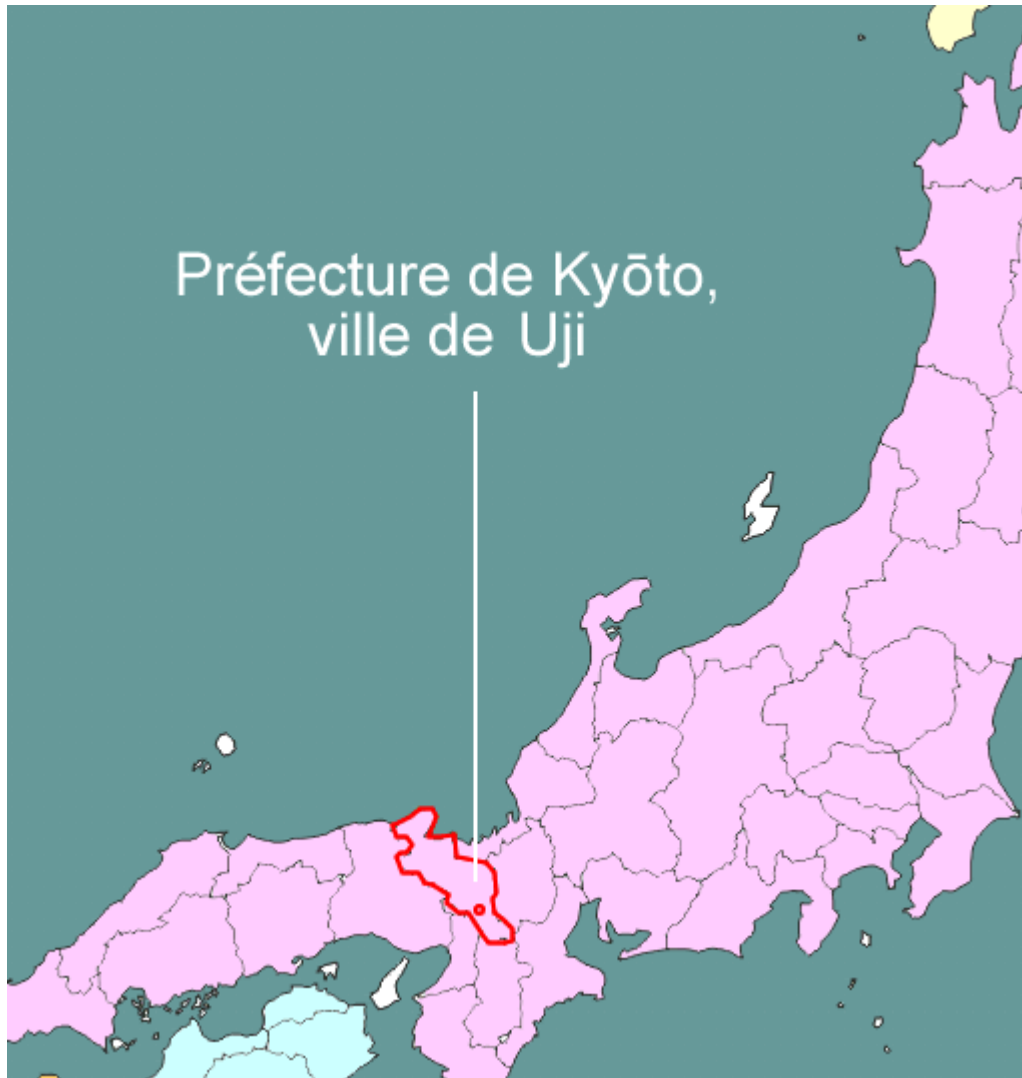
### **Phase 3: The Confrontation**

- Once the enemy infantry arrives at the river lines, the 4 brigades concealed in the narrow passes will make a surprise attack eliminating the troops from the enemy side.
- If the enemy makes it out alive from the first confrontation, whilst crossing the river the archers will fire upon them with fire arrows.
- If they survive the 2<sup>nd</sup> confrontation and make it midway into the river, the remaining flanks from the north, north east, south east and south will approach to put a final stop to the enemy troops.
- Additional reinforcements from the enemy lines will be baited into entering the entangling grounds to be fired upon by the archers.
- Any sort of naval fleet approaching the river from the enemy's side will be fired upon by the archers crippling the naval fleet of the enemy.

- An additional failsafe will include the concealed naval fleet of the Minamoto clan which will emerge from the mist approaching the already damaged naval fleet of the enemy.
- The boats will be maneuvered in such a way that it will charge in the middle of the naval boats of the enemy, dismantling the infrastructure of the boats.

#### **Phase 4: The Aftermath**

- Captured soldiers will be treated kindly to try and win them over with the magnanimity of the Minamoto clan and thus increasing the military strength.
- The infantry will ravage enemy supplies and make use of the artillery. Forays will be created to supply the army with food
- The remaining brigades and flanks will be reinforced with an additional 75 infantry troops. They will slowly advance into the Taira Clan's territory.
- They will penetrate into facile ground and win over the people with generosity and human nature.
- The idea of treating enemy territories with kindness is to psychologically cripple the mentality of the Taira clan.
- Whilst the annexation, the soldiers will be observed and studied deeply considering their well being at the highest priority.
- They will not be overtaxed into doing too much; however, the army will be continually on the move.
- The river banks of Uji will be made into a base for future operations against the Taira clan.



## **SAMPLE COMMUNIQUE**

From - Georgy Malenkov

To - Franklin D Roosevelt

Subject: Requesting funds for the recruitment of military

Respected President, We request you on the behalf of the Soviet Union to help us fund the military recruitment programme. Nazi Germany's influence is growing at a rapid pace and the

war with them is not going our way. Soon enough, this will be a problem for your country as well. This is an allies problem. We request you to help us in this dire situation. We will be indebted to you if you could help us. We require 10 million US dollars for this project and to ensure the survival of our nation. We also request you to join the war as Nazi Germany's power is getting out of control and we cannot win this war without your help. It would be of a great help if you would comply with us and hopefully fund this project by May 15th 1942.

Regards,

Malenkov

**NOTE :**

Please keep in mind that neither of these samples are specific to the agenda. They serve as a collective guide for one to understand formatting, procedure, and the requirement for detail in each type of documentation that is sent to the Executive Board. It does NOT serve as a template for extracting content that is in any way whatsoever related to this committee's agenda.

Furthermore, kindly note that a session on Crisis Rules of Procedure, key elements of a Crisis Committee, and other notable aspects to be considered during the conference, may be held on the day of the committee before the formal session, in order to clear selective doubts and confusion regarding nuances in ROP. Crisis documentation, specifically directives, communique, and press releases, will also be revisited in this session.

# **Letter from the Executive Board**

Dear Delegates,

It gives us immense pleasure to welcome you to the Continuous Crisis Committee (CCC) of the VVP Model United Nations. Throughout the committee's progression, we expect you to keep in mind the essence of diplomacy upon which the United Nations has been built, at the same time, doing justice to and protecting the interests of your respective nations.

The agenda that we will be discussing over the next few days has been selected after careful contemplation. Having been of historical significance, there exists a dire need to deliberate on the issue regarding the Cuban missile crisis.

We cannot emphasize the importance of being well-researched on the agenda and more importantly, being aware of your country's stance on it. Performing equally in all aspects by upholding your foreign policy, dealing with the agenda from as practical a perspective as you can and cooperating to reach a comprehensive resolution is the key to success in committee. We also highly recommend that you take time to understand the special requirements of CCC, and the role documentation plays in it.

This background guide aims to provide an overview of the agenda and has been carefully curated to give you an understanding of what we expect to see discussed in committee. This should, in no way, be the sole source of your research. This background guide is only meant to help you kick-start your preparation and is by no means an exhaustive list of the diverse subtopics that can potentially be discussed. While aware that this background guide will probably and should only comprise a small fraction of your research, we shall commit ourselves to ensuring that it is written to the best of our ability. We sincerely hope that this

document will aid you well. We wish you the best of luck and feel free to reach out to the executive board in case you have any queries.

**Important: Some events that took place after the freeze date have been considered to have taken place as elaborated below. This is done to facilitate debate. Moreover, we will not be considering any event that took place after October 14 1962 to have occurred in this timeline, you are allowed to rewrite history. Throughout the committee, the EB may arbitrarily choose to extrapolate the timeline to accommodate actions taken place through your directive.**

Best Regards,

Arav Bhojashettar ( Co-Chairperson )

Abhay Karanth ( Co- Chairperson)

# Agenda Brief

Freeze Date - 14 Oct 1962

## 1. The Bay of Pigs invasion and its effect on the current crisis

### **Background:**

- Fidel Castro led a successful revolution in Cuba in 1959, overthrowing the government of Fulgencio Batista and establishing a socialist regime.
- Castro's close ties with the Soviet Union and nationalisation of American-owned properties (plantations, casinos and all other business enterprises) led to increasing tensions with the United States.

### **Planning and Preparation:**

- In 1960, the CIA under President Eisenhower began planning to overthrow Castro's government.
- Training camps were set up in Guatemala where Cuban exiles, known as Brigade 2506, were recruited, trained, and equipped.
- The plan involved a surprise amphibious landing at the Bay of Pigs, located on the southern coast of Cuba, to spark a popular uprising against Castro.

### **Execution:**

- On April 15, 1961, a force of about 1,400 Cuban exiles, trained and equipped by the CIA, landed at the Bay of Pigs.
- The invasion began with inadequate airstrikes against Cuban airfields to destroy Castro's air force leading to Castro's air force retaliating.

- The exile forces faced heavy resistance from Castro's military and militia forces.
- Despite initial gains, the invaders were unable to establish a foothold and were quickly overwhelmed, mostly because in the regions of their invasion most of the populace supported Castro.
- Within three days, the invaders surrendered or were captured. Over 100 were killed and more than 1,100 were captured.

## 2. Aftermath of the Bay of Pigs Invasion

### **Impact within the United States**

- The invasion was a failure primarily due to several factors: lack of air support, inadequate intelligence, and poor communication between different factions of the invading force. This reflected poorly on the newly elected president - John F Kennedy
- The president's military actions in the following months were cautious, however, both the domestic population and the international community saw President Kennedy as weak and easy to push over.
- The military chiefs in the American army felt the need to redeem themselves and began suggesting more aggressive actions to the president for all subsequent Cold War conflicts. This created tension between the military figures and political figures (who advised the president with caution) in the president's cabinet.

### **Impact on Cuba and the Soviet Union**

- This invasion attempt led to the Soviet Union strengthening its support for Castro.



- Soviets sent over major arms shipments containing a wide range of weapons, most pierce of which were the surface-to-air missiles that could shoot down most surveillance and attack aircrafts.
- President Kennedy refused to take any measures to curb Cuba's armament as he believed in Cuba's right to self-defence.
- The Bay of Pigs invasion solidified Castro's grip on power in Cuba and bolstered his support among the Cuban population.

Overall, the Bay of Pigs invasion was a pivotal event in Cold War history, illustrating the complexities and consequences of U.S. attempts to intervene in the affairs of communist regimes during that era.

### 3. Ongoing Arms Race

#### **Nuclear Weapons Development:**

- **United States:** Developed and tested the first atomic bombs during World War II. Continued to develop more powerful hydrogen bombs (thermonuclear weapons) in the early Cold War years.
- **Soviet Union:** Successfully tested its own atomic bomb in 1949, earlier than expected by Western powers. Rapidly developed its hydrogen bomb capabilities.

#### **Delivery Systems and Strategic Arms Race:**

- **United States:** Invested heavily in long-range bombers like the B-52 Stratofortress, Recons like U-2s, and developed Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) capable of delivering nuclear warheads across continents.
- **Soviet Union:** In 1957, Khrushchev declared that the Soviet Union had deployed intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of reaching the United States. This assertion was part of a broader propaganda effort to enhance the Soviet Union's image as a military and technological powerhouse. However, it was later revealed that at that time, the Soviet Union had not yet successfully developed and deployed operational ICBMs.

The actual development and deployment of Soviet ICBMs occurred later in the early 1960s. The first successful Soviet ICBM, the R-7 Semyorka, was developed under the supervision of Sergei Korolev and became operational in 1959. This missile eventually formed the basis for both military and space exploration purposes.

#### 4. Jupiter missiles in Turkey

##### **Background:**

- The Jupiter missile was an intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) developed by the United States during the late 1950s. It was capable of carrying a nuclear warhead and had a range that could cover targets within the Soviet Union if deployed in proximity to its borders.

##### **Deployment in Turkey and Italy:**

- In 1961, as part of NATO's strategy to deter Soviet aggression and defend Western Europe from potential attack, the United States deployed Jupiter missiles in Turkey.
- Turkey's strategic location allowed these missiles to reach deep into Soviet territory, providing a deterrent against Soviet military actions in Europe.

##### **Soviet Response:**

- The deployment of Jupiter missiles in Turkey was viewed by the Soviet Union as a direct threat to its security. The missiles were seen as capable of significantly reducing the warning time for a potential nuclear strike against Soviet targets.
- This deployment heightened tensions between the superpowers and contributed to the escalation of the arms race

#### 5. Other ongoing conflicts

- Proxy wars

- Space race
- Berlin Wall

## Current Events

### **Aerial Surveillance:**

- In early October 1962, U.S. U-2 spy planes conducted routine reconnaissance flights over Cuba as part of ongoing surveillance efforts.
- On October 14, 1962, a U-2 spy plane piloted by Major Richard Heyser of the United States Air Force photographed evidence of Soviet ballistic missile installations under construction in Cuba.

### **Analysis and Confirmation:**

- The reconnaissance photographs were carefully analyzed by intelligence agencies in the United States, particularly the CIA.
- The analysis revealed the presence of Soviet SS-4 Sandal and SS-5 Skean medium-range ballistic missiles (MRBMs) capable of striking targets anywhere in the entire eastern seaboard of the United States.
- The estimate suggests that the weapons will be armed in 14 days at the current pace, and crash construction could have them ready within 5
- Along with the weapons, an increased man force is seen installing and protecting the MRBRs, these forces are believed to be soviet soldiers in plain clothes

### **The influx of ships:**

- An increased number of Soviet ships have been seen transporting goods to Cuba
- Heat and ship class analysis suggests these ships are more than required to provide Cuba with just aid and self-defence weaponry.

**Actions taken (Additional events created by the EB to facilitate debate, these actions took place in real life much later than the freeze date, but**

**for all intrinsic purposes in the committee, they will be considered to have taken place. ) :**

- President Kennedy set up the EXCOM, comprising key members of his administration who specialized in dealing with unprecedented situations of this nature
- An unnamed member of the EXCOM leaked their findings to renowned journalist Walter Cronkite. Through his popular news show, Walter Cronkite informed Americans and the international community that “routine surveillance of Cuba revealed MRBR nuclear warhead in Cuba, capable of decimating key cities on the US east coast.
- Panic ensued among the American people, however, most of the international community dismissed these claims as false.
- President Kennedy subsequently, addressed the nation, warning against Cuban aggression. This reduced the panic to a manageable level. Following this, Nikita Khrushchev gave a speech denying the American allegations.
- Most of the international community is still convinced that no such weapons exist in Cuba.

All the Best!